# Kentucky Public Service Commission

Report to the Kentucky Energy Policy Advisory Board

Martin J. Huelsmann Chairman, PSC December 20, 2001

### **Overview of Report**

- Industry Changes
- Summary and Conclusions: G&T in Kentucky
- Demand and Supply Planning
- Supply Resource Issues
- Related Issues: Public Power Authority, G&T Siting, Curtailment
- Electric Transmission Flow Analysis Model

## Background

- Executive Order 2001-771
  - PSC to study generation and transmission issues
- Administrative Case 387
  - To hear from utilities and others
  - Three hearings

## **Industry Changes**

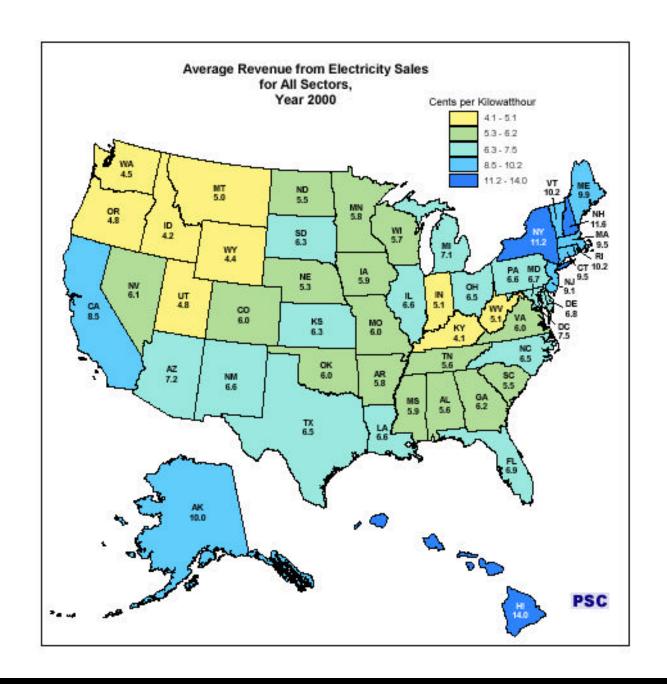
- Federal Energy Policy Act of 1992: IPPs
- FERC Order 888: Open Access Transmission
- Retail Restructuring in other states
- FERC Order 2000: RTOs
- Stricter Environmental Regulations

## **Industry Changes**

- All of these have impacted the electric industry
  - Increased volume of large power transfers across greater distances
  - Reductions in reserve margins
  - Reliance on wholesale power purchases, volatility in electricity prices
    - Reliance on gas-fired generation, volatility in natural gas prices



- Kentucky rates among the lowest in the nation
  - 12% below the region in 2000
  - 23% below nation in 2000



#### **Electric Rates**

- Kentucky rates among the lowest in the nation
  - 12% below the region in 2000
  - 23% below nation in 2000
- Credit coal-fired generation sold at costbased rates.
- Major utilities: Big Rivers, East Kentucky Power, LG&E/KU, AEP-Kentucky, and ULH&P

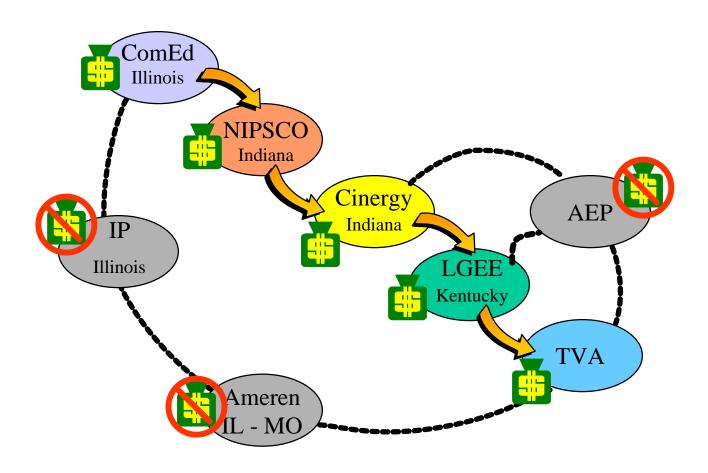
## Conclusions and Findings: Generation

- Generation and supply planning adequate to serve native load. Long term concerns regarding reliance on purchased power.
- Supply Resource Issues
  - Require annual capacity needs assessments starting March 2002.
  - Shared ownership, plant maintenance schedules, DSM
  - Public Power Authority to market coal fired generation?

# Conclusions and Findings: Transmission

- Grid is adequate to serve native load
- Not adequate for handling anticipated volume of wholesale bulk power transfers during high demand
- Reliability protected by TLR
- RTOs expected to better manage parallel flows

#### **Parallel Flows**



# Conclusions and Findings Transmission (con't.)

- Grid upgrades necessary to accommodate anticipated wholesale transfers
- Cost of upgrades should be borne by cost causers/ beneficiaries of upgrades. Kentucky consumers are not either.
- Kentucky must continue working to ensure that the cost and reliability protections remain.
- Legislation is being drafted giving transmission priority to native load customers

# Electric Transmission Flow Analysis Model

- Indicated that, <u>under study conditions</u>, existing system could accommodate 6,000 to 7,800 MW of proposed generation.
- Results dependent on several assumptions.
- Unless merchant plants obtain firm transmission rights, they will only have access on an as-available basis.
- To obtain firm transmission, they must pay for necessary upgrades to system.

# Demand and Supply Planning

- Big Rivers: Purchases 100% at fixed prices
- East Kentucky: Add base load and peaking capacity plus purchased power at fixed prices through 2010.
- LG&E/KU: New peaking capacity and DSM through 2010
- AEP-KY: Market power purchases after 2004
- ULH&P: Fixed price contract through 2006

### Supply Resource Issues

- Gas Fired Generation/ Natural Gas Prices
- Joint Ownership/ Scheduled Maintenance
  - Joint studies and report by mid-2002 to PSC
- Demand Side Management
- Impacts of Merchant Power Plants
  - Benefits not adequate to cause native load customers to pay for transmission upgrades.
  - Pricing is key to role in generation planning.

#### Related Issues

- Public Power Authority
  - Beyond scope of PSC jurisdiction
  - Recommend Board address
- Generation and Transmission Siting
  - Legislation needed
- Curtailment Issues
  - Give native load priority by statute

#### **Orders to Utilities**

- File capacity needs assessments annually beginning March 2002
- Conduct joint investigation of shared ownership and report by June 2002
- Conduct study of coordinating maintenance schedules and report by June 2002
- Conduct reserve margin analysis and include in next Integrated Resource Plan
- Evaluate DSM in next IRP